(b) whether it was come to notice of Central Government that certain States have increased the acreage of land if so, the details of such increase, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) While the Cauvery basin lies in the State of Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Union Territory of Pondicherry, the Cauvery Delta lies only in Tamil Nadu and Union Territory of Pondicherry. The total land cultivated in the Cauvery delta in Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry is reported to be about 12 lakh acres.

(b) The Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal in its Interim Order dated 25.6.91 has directed that the State of Karnataka shall not increase its area under irrigation by waters of the river Cauvery beyond existing 11.2 lakh acres as submitted before the Tribunal in May, 1991 by the State of Karnataka. The Tribunal has not placed any restrictions regarding increasing its area under irrigation by the waters of the river Cauvery by the other three basin States/UT.

Review of rain water harvesting

2091. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have still not thought of constituting a National Level Committee that would oversee the possibilities of rain water harvesting in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government intend of doing so in the near future and the details for the same thereby; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to plan, finance and execute schemes for augmenting water resources including rain water harvesting.

However, the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources, makes assessment regarding ground water potential and also possibilities of rain water harvesting in various parts of the country. Based on the experience gained through implementation of the Central Sector Scheme on Study of Recharge to Ground Water, during Ninth Five Year Plan, the CGWB has prepared manual on artificial recharge and guide to recharge of ground water, in which detailed scientific studies/ techniques are mentioned to undertake any recharge project in different geological set-ups and agro-climatic conditions. As such, there is no need to constitute a committee to look into the matter.

Funds allocated for improvement of drainage system in Orissa

2092. SHRIMATI SUSHREE DEVI:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that coastal areas of Mahanadi Delta system and coastal belt of Balasore and Bhadrak Districts in Orissa suffer from drainage and water logging problems;

(b) whether four proposals costing Rs. 1300.29 lakh for improvement of drainage etc. for Balasore district have been submitted to Government in June 2002, for providing necessary funds for the works; and

(c) if so, the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No specific scheme for Balasore District costing Rs. 1300.29 lakhs has been received in Central Water Commission. However, Government of Orissa has submitted a Master Plan for drainage development costing Rs. 571 crore to the Central Water Commission in August, 2002, which *inter-alia* includes "Doabs" of Balasore and the Bhadrak districts. The Central Water Commission while processing these schemes has requested the State Government to prioritise its need, on account of resource constraint.